

# Effingham Park Board Meeting

November 1, 2023

5:30 pm

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The regular meeting of the Effingham Park Board was held on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 5:30 pm at the Ron Diehl Center at 1906 South Fourth Street.

## Present:

Russ Sehy, President

Mike Cunningham, Vice-President

Kevin Palmer, Commissioner

Matt Dasenbrock, Commissioner

Jeff Althoff, Director

Anita Broom, Treasurer

Carole McDevitt, Recording Secretary

**Absent:** Angie Kronewitter, Commissioner

Leah Ritter, General Manager Workman Sports Complex

Roll call was taken by President, Russ Sehy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance with the regular meeting beginning at 5:30 pm.

## Secretary's Report

A motion to accept the secretary's report was made by Palmer; second Cunningham; all ayes.

## Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Anita Broom, reviewed fund income statements for the month of August, 2023. Corporate fund revenue was \$7,715.40. Expenses were \$107,778.02 leaving a net income of a negative \$100,062.62. Recreation fund revenue was \$28,623.66 of which \$15,422.84 was from program fees. Expenses were \$99,840.60 leaving a negative balance for August of \$71,217.00, although year to date revenue is \$10,929.40 more than at this time last year. Pool revenue for August was \$8,607.26 of which \$6,981.00 was from pool admissions. Due to the higher cost of pool chemicals and repairs, and lower attendance, year to date revenue is considerably lower than at this time last year.

Althoff said one cause of lower attendance at the city pool is the increasing abundance of home pools, plus the availability of the Workman Complex pool and the newly improved beach area at Lake Sarah. He noted that the park pool is 30 years old and needing over \$2million in repairs. It is losing money every year. He said decisions need to be made as to whether it is feasible to pay for repairs and major updates or perhaps close the pool and construct a small splash pad which no neighboring town currently has. A large splash pad with slides and a lazy river could cost \$3million but he thinks children would love it. He will obtain itemized prices for repairs and updates for the pool and prices for splash pads.

The following bills for the month of August greater than \$100.00 were reviewed for payment.

IPARKS	\$127,841.00	Liability Insurance
Capital One Bank (USA), N. A.	3,713.87	
South Central	1,288.50	

Menards	1,300.81	BSN Sports, LLC	\$731.92
Tucker Accounting Service, Inc.	159.50	Burford Electric, Inc.	752.98
Dasenbrock Fence Company	160.00	Illinois Fiber Connect	226.71
Fred Biggs Electric Supply	356.81	WEX Bank	856.11
Trophies Unlimited	234.00	Sanitation Service, Inc.	145.00
Sanitation Service, Inc.	145.00	Sanitation Service, Inc.	145.00
Effingham Equity	144.63	Crossroads Truck Equipment	360.59
Great America Financial Services	150.89	Walmart	124.97
Dan Latch	382.50	Lakeland College	239.72
Great America Financial Services	159.56	Q. Anthony Siemer	295.00
BSN Sports, LLC	731.92	RentX	380.00
Systems Development Services, In	199.70	Fieldworks	100.00

#### Bond Account

Thoele Plumbing                      \$18,227.00      Install new water heater at WSC

Transfer to Workman Sports & Wellness Complex (Rink Management Account) \$70,000.00

Broom noted that the 2023 \$750,000.00 general obligation bond will be maturing on December 1<sup>st</sup>. It will be paid from the debt service funds received through the tax distributions. She said it might be necessary to borrow from working cash if distributions received by December 1<sup>st</sup> are less than the total amount required.

Principal	\$750,000.00
Interest	\$ 28,612.50
Total	\$778,612.50

She reported that a 1<sup>st</sup> tax distribution of \$1,420,090.66 has just been received which included \$501,772.01 in debt service funds.

Althoff said a meeting will be held in December to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds in the amount of \$750,000.00 for the purpose of financing park facilities in 2024. This is an annual request that is routinely paid back plus interest by December 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year.

**A motion to accept the treasurer's report, approve the transfer of \$70,000.00 to Workman Sports and Wellness Complex –Rink Management, and pay the bills was made by Cunningham; second Dasenbrock; Four Ayes/No Nays.**

#### Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

#### New Business

##### Discussion of Tax Levy Ordinance for Passage in December

Board members reviewed information on the proposed 2023-2024 tax levy that will need to be passed in December. Althoff said the proposed total aggregate levy, excluding the debt service fund, of \$1,496,749.00 doesn't exceed 105% of last year's extensions of \$1,425,314.00. Therefore, a truth in taxation hearing is not needed. He said the levy is based on an estimated equalized valuation of \$385,000,000.00.

After discussion, a motion to give approval for Althoff to take the proposed levy to the attorney's office for Q. Anthony Siemer to review and prepare the document into the ordinance for adoption by the Board at the December meeting was made by Cunningham; second Dasenbrock; Four Ayes/No Nays.

## **Director's Report**

Althoff said restrooms are being closed now in preparation for the winter season. The restroom near Harmony Playground will be open a little longer.

Work is being done to remove leaves and debris from the Trec Trail.

Some dugout roofs are being replaced plus the blue pavilion roof near Paul Smith Field.

### **Community Alliance Group**

Althoff will give a presentation at the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Community Alliance Group regarding status of the parks and the Workman Sports Complex. He will describe updates to the parks and note that 6,000 people are registered in the database, nearly one half in-district and one half out of district. Having to help support the Workman Sports Complex monetarily is keeping the park district from instigating more updates and improvements.

### **Quick Books**

Althoff announced that Quick Books should be set up within the next week allowing one person to be able to sign checks instead of the two now required, Althoff will be able to sign checks without the treasurer also signing. Approval is needed for checks under \$10,000.00 to be signed by only one person

**A motion allowing checks under \$10,000.00 to be signed with only one signature was made by Dasenbrock; second Cunningham; Four Ayes/No Nays.**

### **Workman Sports Complex**

Althoff said he sent a letter of termination of contract at the end of this year to Tom Hillgrove, president of Rink Management. Currently there is a year to year contract, which began in September, with Rink Management to manage the Workman Sports Complex. The contract requires a 90 day notice to cancel, and since the letter did not fall into that timeline, the termination was not accepted. The district's contract is now extended to September 2024. Althoff has sent a new letter of termination as of September 1, 2024.

**A motion for adjournment at 6:15 pm was made by Sehy; second Cunningham; all ayes.**